The Siege and Deliverance of Samaria

I. The sufferings during the siege.

1. The extremeties of the sufferers like those of the present war.
   Scarcity of food and high prices.

II. The conduct of the lepers.

1. At first they thot but of themselves. only.
2. Then they thot of the starving city.

III. King Jehoram and his hidden sackcloth

"And when the king heard the words of the woman, he tore his clothes--and as he was passing by upon the wall, the people looked and saw that he wore sackcloth within on on his naked flesh."

1. Many a man has a secret sorrow that he d does not declare. He keeps to himself the distress of his soul. It is better to do this than to parade one's troubles

2. Many a man who, in his riches or high position seems to be hard and unsympathetic is not so at all. He may be suffering for others. Only in a moment of great emotion does he show it. Men are kinder than we think.

a) Thruout those trying days of the Civil War when the nation was torn asunder, none suffered as much as did Lincoln in the White House. "I have not suffered by the South; he said, 'I have suffered with the South".

b) May it not be so with President Wilson? He who is bearing the burden of it all must suffer as none of the rest of us can.

c) A successful business man into whose family death had come was so moved by the

kindness shown him that he feelingly remarked,"It makes me ashamed of myself t that I have so undervalued the good will of those about me, and that I have failed myself so often in showing sympathy and kindness to neighbors and friends in their times of sorrow. I have never dreamed there was so much love in peoples hearts as has been shown us in our bereavement, even by mere acquaintances."

d). Thawing out the frozen ground in Alaska by means of forcing steam thru pipes in in the ground. People's hearts are so col they remain indifferent and insensible to the needs of the unfortunate ones. But when misfortune overtakes them and a feeling of fellow sympathy is aroused, love thaws out their cold hardened hearts and the real gold of the better nature yields itself to the good of humankind.

Therefore in all our relations with each other we must remember that many a man has a sorrow held secret which we little understand and taht many a man is far more sympathetic and friendly than his manner would indicate. As the people learned to understand their king the day he tore his robe in their presence, so we learn to know and understand each other in experiences of deep pain or joy.

Keeping in close touch with Jesus means keeping ourselves warm-hearted with sympathy and ready to help anyone in time of need.